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COUNTRY Korea

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SUBJECT Suppression of Dissident Youth Group in North Korea

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1. In December 1948, a group of young men in North Hamgyong Province of North Korea formed a secret organization to fight the North Korean government and Communist domination, and to work for the unification of Korea.* They divided into two geographical units, to the north and south of Nyongchon, with a provincial headquarters, considered a battalion headquarters, at Chongjin (129-49, 41-46). The northern unit attempted to affiliate with the Northwest Youth Association in South Korea.

2. Subsidiary organizations were formed as companies at city and county level, platoons at township level, and special guerrilla and service units under the direct control of the provincial secretary. At provincial and at the city-county level, the headquarters were divided into departments for general affairs, organization, propaganda, students, and women, with a secretary as executive officer under the headquarters.

3. The group gained about two hundred members among employees of the provincial Department of Internal Affairs, Railroad Organization, Office of Internal Affairs, and the army, and teachers, students, and private employees. The group extended through three cities and eleven counties of North Korea.

4. The activities of the group were exposed in April 1949 through their attempts at recruiting members in key government agencies. On 15 April several members were arrested in Chongjin, and others were later apprehended in villages and rural districts. The exact number of arrests was not known but was believed to be large. One of the members, arrested on 16 April at Nanam (129-41, 41-42) railway station, was carrying a list of members and biographical data on each which was destined for South Korea; through this, almost the entire membership of the organization was found and arrested. Only three or four of the group avoided arrest or escaped and made their way to South Korea.

5. The members who were arrested included the following:

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WON Ki-sun (元基淳) & WON Chung-kuk (元忠國), Chongjin, member of the Democratic Party, one of the original organizers.

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YI Ki-han (李起漢) & YI Mu (李武), Chongjin, provincial secretary.

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GENERAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



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- 25X1 CHO Ik-hwan (趙益煥) @ CHO Han-min (趙韓民), [] Chongjin, province radio operator, the person who was carrying the list of members.
- 25X1 KIM He-suk (金惠淑), [] Chongjin, head of the provincial Women's Department.
- 25X1 KANG Sun-són (康順仙), [] Chongjin, member of the Organization Department.
- 25X1 CH'IA Hak-sók (車鶴硕), [] Onsong, head of the unit association headquarters.
- 25X1 KIM Yong-p'al (金泳八), Onsong, member of the county headquarters.
- AN Yong-nok (安永祿), [] Chongjin.
- CHANG Man-kap (張萬甲), Chongjin.
- CHI Ch'ang (池昌), Chongjin.
- PAK Hak-söp (朴學燮) @ PAK I-kong (朴二恭), [] Chongjin.
- YI Kang-nyöng (李康寧), Chongjin.
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25X1 [] Comment. A similar group reported active in Wonsan in January 1949 was also suppressed in early April when the police arrested almost all the members.